App. No. 10/659,919
Office Action Dated August 8, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Claims 1, 8, and 15 are amended.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for remote personalization and issuance of identity documents, comprising:

   a portable personalization machine that includes integrated therein:

   > i)   at least one personalization unit for performing a personalization operation on an identity document,

   > ii)   an identity document input for inputting an identity document to be personalized,

   > iii)   an identity document output for outputting an identity document personalized by the personalization unit,

   > iv)   a control unit controlling the personalization unit,

   > v)   communications equipment to permit communications between the control unit and [[with]] a controlling authority remote from the personalization machine, and

   > v)   an interface to permit connection between the control unit and [[to]] a local controller;

   a controlling authority remote from the personalization machine; and

   a local controller for entering locally collected data to the portable personalization machine, the local controller being external to the portable personalization machine and being that is interfaceable with the interface of the personalization machine.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the personalization machine further includes an encryption unit for encrypting and decrypting communications between the communications equipment of the personalization machine and the controlling authority.

2

App. No. 10/659,919
Office Action Dated August 8, 2005

3. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the personalization machine further includes a global positioning system receiver.

4. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the communications equipment comprises a global system for mobile communications transceiver.

5. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the interface comprises an ethernet connection.

6. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the personalization unit comprises a laser engraving unit, an ink-jet printer, or an integrated circuit chip programming unit.

7. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the personalization unit is adapted to personalize cards or booklets.

8. (Currently Amended) A portable personalization machine for use in remote personalization and issuance of identity documents, comprising:
    at least one personalization unit for performing a personalization operation on an identity document;
    an identity document input for inputting an identity document to be personalized by the personalization unit;
    an identity document output for outputting an identity document personalized by the personalization unit;
    a control unit controlling the personalization unit;
    communications equipment to permit communications [[with]] between the control unit and a controlling authority remote from the personalization machine; and
    an interface to permit connection [[to]] between the control unit and a local controller,
    wherein the local controller is provided externally to the personalization machine and allows entering locally collected data to the portable personalization machine.

3

App. No. 10/659,919
Office Action Dated August 8, 2005

9. (Original) The portable personalization machine of claim 8, further including an encryption unit for encrypting and decrypting communications.

10. (Original) The portable personalization machine of claim 8, further including a global positioning system receiver.

11. (Original) The portable personalization machine of claim 8, wherein the communications equipment comprises a global system for mobile communications transceiver.

12. (Original) The portable personalization machine of claim 8, wherein the interface comprises an ethernet connection.

13. (Original) The portable personalization machine of claim 8, wherein the personalization unit comprises a laser engraving unit, an ink-jet printer, or an integrated circuit chip programming unit.

14. (Original) The portable personalization machine of claim 8, wherein the personalization unit is adapted to personalize cards or booklets.

15. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling a portable personalization machine for remotely personalizing and issuing identity documents, the portable personalization machine including at least one personalization unit capable of personalizing an identity document, comprising:

inputting local operator authorization into the personalization machine via a local controller that is external to the portable personalization machine and that is interfaceable with the personalization machine, wherein the personalization unit is initially disabled so that the personalization unit cannot perform a personalization function on an identity document; and

sending an enable request from the personalization machine to a controlling authority located remote from the personalization machine,

4

App. No. 10/659,919
Office Action Dated August 8, 2005

wherein receiving of the local operator authorization into the personalization machine and sending the enable request to the controlling authority are controlled by a control unit integrated within the personalization machine.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the enable request comprises information on the current geographic location of the personalization machine, and further comprising checking the information in the enable request against information stored at the controlling authority.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, further comprising sending an enable signal from the controlling authority to the personalization machine if the enable request information matches the stored information at the controlling authority, wherein the enable signal enables operation of the personalization unit so that the personalization unit can perform a personalization function.

18. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising inputting local operator authorization and sending an enable request to the controlling authority for each operation of the personalization unit that requires operator intervention.

19. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising inputting data to be personalized by the personalization unit into the personalization machine, sending the data to be personalized to the controlling authority, checking the data to be personalized against stored data at the controlling authority, and if there is a match, sending an authorization signal from the controlling authority to the personalization machine to enable the personalization unit to personalize the data onto the identity document.

20. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising sending a report to the controlling authority after the completion of each personalization action by the personalization unit.

5

App. No. 10/659,919
Office Action Dated August 8, 2005

    21. (Original) The method of claim 20, further comprising sending a report to the controlling authority after the completion of personalization on an identity document.

6